English Translation of Manik Bandyopadhyay's Titles

2348. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that English translations of Manik Bandyopadhyay's "The puppets' Tals" and "The Boatman of Padma", published by the Sahitya Akademi are out of print;

(b) whether Government propose to publish them; and

(c) if so, by when and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The Sahitya Akademi has published the English translation entitled "The puppets' Tale" of Sri Manik Bandyopadhyay's Bengali novel 'Putul Nacher Itikatha' and the book is available in the market; the Akademi has not published "The Boatman of Padma".

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Cleanliness at Aligarh, Lucknow, Kanpur and New Delhi railway stations

2349. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sanitary and cleanliness arrangements at the railway stations especially at Aligarh, Lucknow, Kanpur and New Delhi are extremely hopeless;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the toilets and bathrooms of II class waiting rooms and even of upper classes are also not cleaned regularly; and

(c) if so, what remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Adequate sanitary staff is provided at all stations including Aligarh, Lucknow, Kanpur and New Delhi and due attention is paid to the cleanliness of toilets, bathrooms and waiting rooms. Surprise inspections by officers are also made and cleanliness drives are also launched from time to time. Railways have recently been directed to intensify inspections at senior level.

Sale of II class rail tickets through travel agents

2350. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to licence travel agents for selling second class rail tickets; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) It is proposed to licence Rail Travellers' Service Agents to purchase tickets and secure reservations on behalf of intending rail passengers on payment of prescribed service charges by such passengers.

Cargoes handled by ports

2351. SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state what is the amount of goods in terms of tonnage imported and exported through the major and minor ports of the country during last year and the current year separately?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): The tonnage imported and exported through the major ports of the country during last year and current year till